Import of Ferrous Scrap

846. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that although domestic scrap is available the import of ferrous scrap is allowed;

(b) if so, what are the reasons thereof;

(c) the total ferrous scrap imported during the last three years, year-wise and the amount of foreign exchange involved year-wise;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the actual users are allowed a six months credit on the imported scrap while this facility is not available to local scrap dealers and as a result of this facility actual users go in for imported scrap;

(e) whether it is also a fact that lakhs of tonnes of steel scrap is rusting away in the country without any takers due to imports; and

(f) if so, whether Government propose to reconsider import policy in this regard, and if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR): (a) and (b) Indigenous scrap availability is not adequate to meet demand and hence import of Ferrous Scrap is allowed.

(c) Import of ferrous scrap, alongwith foreign exchange spent, during the last three years is as under:

Year	Quantity (In lakh tonnes)	Value (Rs. In crores)
1984-85 . . .	7.68	103
1985-86 . . .	14.52	239
1986-87 . . .	21.23	327

(d) Foreign suppliers offer six months credit to actual users of imported scrap. Local scrap dealers are free to offer similar credit. Imports are allowed to the extent of the assessed gap between demand and availabilty and not on the basis of credit terms offered by suppliers.

(e) No report of rusting of scrap, without any takers, have come to notice.

(f) The quantity of scrap imports is reviewed every year and imports are limited to the gap between assessed demand and indigenous availabilty.

Expenditure on Projects on Oilseeds Production

847. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount spent by Government on its projects to improve oilseeds production;

(b) the result achieved as a result thereof and whether there is any sign of the country achieving self-sufficiency in edible oils in the foreseable future;

(c) whether any evaluation of the impact of the National Oilseeds Development Project has been made and if so, what is the outcome thereof; and

(d) what further measures are proposed to be taken to improve the production of oilseeds and the time by when the country is likely to achieve self-sufficiency in edible oils?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b) So far during the Seventh plan period a sum of Rs. 45.90 crores has been released under Centrally Sponsored National Oilseeds Development Project, as Central share.

As a result, the production of oilseeds during 1986-87 is likely to be higher by 11 per cent over 1985-86 despite adverse weather conditions. Concerted efforts are under way to achieve self-sufficiency in oilseeds.

(c) The evaluation of the impact of the National Oilseeds Development Project is under progress.

(d) With the implementation of National Oilseeds Development Project and Oilseeds Production Thrust Project sanctioned for kharif 1987, and constitution of Oilseeds Technology Mission, it is hoped to achieve self-sufficiency in oilseeds by 1990.

Production of high yielding varieties of seeds of cereals by multinationals

848. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that it has been decided to permit multinationals to produce high yielding varieties of cereal seeds in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) the names of the multinationals whose proposals in this regard have since been okayed and the names of multinationals whose proposals are still under consideration; and

(d) the terms and conditions on which their proposals have been okayed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) to (c) So far licence has been given in February, 1987 only to M/s. Hindustan Lever Ltd. for the establishment of a new undertaking for the manufacture of 20,000 tonnes per annum of hybrid/highyielding varieties of seeds. The proposals of following companies for colaboration for production of hybrid seeds on equity participation on royalty basis are under consideration:

(i) Seedtec International Inc. USA with Maharashtra Hybrid Seed Company, Bombay;

(ii) Cargil Inc. USA with M/s. Gill & Co. Bombay;

(iii) M/s. Dehlgren Inc. USA with M/s. Nath Seeds Co., Aurangabad;

(iv) M/s. Sandoz India Ltd.

(v) M/s. Northrup King for colaboration with National Seeds Corporation.

(d) The terms and conditions on which the proposal of M/s. Hindustan Lever Ltd. has been okayed are given in the Statement.

Statement

The terms and conditions on which the proposal of M/s. Hindustan Lever Limited has been okayed are as follows:—

1. The Company would be required to follow the Government regulations/guidelines issued from time to time for bringing into the country the genetic seed material and also for exporting the seed material outside the country. The company would also export only those seeds outside the country which are surplus to the requirement of the country and the company would seek permission from the Ministry of Agriculture for exporting any seed from India, provided the seed proposed to be exported is not already included in O.G.L.

2. Any hybrid/high yielding varieties of seed which the company would produce in its laboratories in India or bring from outside would be tested in the All India Coordinated Trials of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) before the seeds is released to the farmers.

3. If seeds of hybrid/variety produced by Indian Scientists is proposed to be exported or the parental lines of such seeds is proposed to be exported by the company to other countries, permission of the ICAR/Agricultural Universities/Government of India would be obtained beforeehand.